

The Effectiveness of Songs for Vocabulary Mastery

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Abstrak

Vocabulary is an important aspect that must be learned when someone wants to master English. Many students have difficulty in mastering vocabulary. So, in learning it, students need media that can support and make it easier for them to learn vocabulary. This article aims to find out whether songs can be used as a medium for someone to learn and master vocabulary and how it affects them. From several studies, it has been proven that song is an effective medium for learning vocabulary. Songs can foster students' motivation to learn vocabulary. Songs help students to get a lot of new vocabulary, then students can identify the meaning of words in English through the lyrics in the song. Of course, students' vocabulary mastery increases through songs.

Keywords: Vocabulary Mastery, English Song

Abstract

Vocabulary merupakan aspek penting yang dapat yang wajib dipelajari ketika seseorang ingin menguasai Bahasa Inggris. Banyak siswa yang memiliki kesulitan dalam penguasaan kosakata. Maka, dalam mempelajarinya siswa membutuhkan media yang dapat mendukung serta mempermudah mereka dalam mempelajari vocabulary. Artikel ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui apakah lagu dapat dijadikan sebagai media untuk seseorang mempelajari dan menguasai kosakata dan bagaimana pengaruhnya. Dari beberapa penelitian telah dibuktikan bahwa lagu merupakan media yang efektif untuk pembelajaran kosakata. Lagu dapat menumbuhkan motivasi siswa untuk mempelajari vocabulary. Lagu membantu siswa untuk mendapatkan banyak kosakata baru, kemudian siswa dapat mengidentifikasikan makna kata dalam bahasa Inggris melalui lirik dalam lagu. Tentunya penguasaan kosakata pada siswa meningkat melalui lagu.

Kata Kunci: Kosakata, Lagu bahasa Inggris

INTRODUCTION

English is the language used in various country. With this, English is called an international language. English is considered as an important language to be mastered to communicate with each other. When someone wants to speak English well, they must master vocabulary well. When someone has a large vocabulary, they will communicate in English. However, in some cases it was found that many students had difficulty memorizing vocabulary. As Eva Faliyanti (2017) state, some students are afraid of learning English and are unable to provide it. It's because they think English is a difficult language to learn. They find it challenging to communicate in their own language, and even in foreign languages.

From that, we can conclude that interesting media is very necessary in learning English, especially vocabulary. It also aims to increase students' motivation in mastering and memorizing vocabulary. One of the media that can be used is through songs. Students will be more interested in learning if they use song media because the learning approach will be more enjoyable. It can help students improve their creativity in addition to being fun. As a result, students' mastery of language is increasing. This article to find out how effective the use of song media is in mastering vocabulary.

VOCABULARY MASTERY

Vocabulary is the most important aspect that must be learned by a student when he wants to learn English, whether for writing, speaking or listening skills. According to Frank (2000), vocabulary knowledge includes understanding the meaning of words, therefore the purpose of the vocabulary test is to see if students can match each word with synonyms, dictionaries, or similar words in their own language. To learn, we must understand the meaning of words and be able to use them automatically in sentences.

Wilkins in Septiani (2010) argues that without grammar it can be conveyed, while without words nothing can be conveyed. Then according to Hornby (1953) in Yuniarti (2011) says that words are an essential aspect of language. From these questions we can say that Vocabulary is an important aspect that must be learned by students, in order to communicate with others. It is also certain that vocabulary is an important part of a language. Without vocabulary, a person will have difficulty in saying anything.

THE SONG

Song, according to Doren in Andianto (2010), is a brief musical piece set to a poetic text, with equal emphasis on the music and the lyrics. It's usually played with instrumental accompaniment and might be written for one or more singers. Besides, Redlich in Andianto (2010) stated that a song is a short composition usually for one voice based on lyrics or poetry. The lyrics and text are very diverse, they can be simple songs or long songs; then in in the form of a sentence or just a word, even syllables and songs are usually combined with music.

Meanwhile, Griffie (1995) in Septiani (2010) argues that songs are in the form of pieces music that has words. From this statement, we can conclude that the song is a combination of words to other words into short pieces.

THE VALUE OF SONGS

One of the methods that can support the process of learning vocabulary is a. Shaleha Isnaini and Dyah Aminatun (2021) mention that songs can be an effective learning method, they stated that songs can be an effective method for teaching English, introducing new English terms and expanding their vocabulary. As we also know, nowadays many students like to listen to songs, the more songs they listen to, the more new vocabulary they will acquire. As stated by Dale (1992: 5) that songs are good in introducing vocabulary because songs provide a meaningful context for vocabulary. Media provides a fun situation for students. From a variety of songs, students can learn a lot of vocabulary.

Furthermore, using songs in learning English will increase students' interest in learning because it is more interesting and fun. As Paul (2003:58) states, that songs can provide feeling and rhythm to language practice that might otherwise be boring, making it easier for students to remember things and bringing students deeper into a lesson. According to Eva Faliyanti (2020) Almost everyone loves songs and also easy to help find it. Everyone can listen to a song at anytime and anywhere. Because there is more variety in song, students are not bored. According to him, listen a song helps memorizing vocabulary easier than any other way.

In research conducted by Yunita Gasma, HeryYufrizal, Muhammad Sukirlan (2020) showed that there is a significant increase in the increase in students' vocabulary achievement after they are taught using songs, they can remember vocabulary easily and feel comfortable during the learning process. in another study conducted by Shaleha Isnaini and Dyah Aminatun (2021) showed that the students feel that English songs are interesting and entertaining as the media for them to learn new

vocabulary, unfamiliar vocabulary, and pronounce the word correctly. The end, songs also can improve their vocabulary.

According to Paul (2003:57), there are several ways to employ English songs in the classroom: 1) Singing, 2) Actions, 3) Chants, 4) Background Songs, and 5) in the times between lessons English songs can be used in classrooms to help students learn English. When teaching learning activities, there are many ways to employ songs or English songs, such as using While the kids are learning the lessons, music is played in the background.

CONCLUSION

From the description above, it can be concluded that vocabulary is an aspect that must be possessed by a person in order to communicate with others. Even in English, vocabulary is the most important aspect for students to learn when they want to master English. The more vocabulary you have, the better your ability to speak English will be. Students need media to help them learn English. One of them with a song. Several studies have shown that songs have a lot of good influences on students in mastering vocabulary. Songs can increase students' motivation to learn, because songs are a fun medium. Songs can help students remember new vocabulary, then songs can also help students to know the meaning of a word and know how to write it through a lyric in a song. So, songs can be used as interesting and effective media in mastering vocabulary, but the teacher or lecturer must also determine what type of song and how it contributes to the material to be studied when they want to apply songs in the learning process.

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